

This week at the UK regulators

Thirty second guide: The week in overview

In a week without concluded enforcement cases, as part of its efforts to advance its consumer protection objective, the FCA has announced a new initiative funded by confiscated proceeds of crime to raise consumer awareness of indicators of investment fraud. In policy developments, it and the PRA have issued a number of papers setting out details of their respective proposed approaches following the transposition of Solvency II in the UK.

Further afield, a memorandum of understanding signed between the Hong Kong and Mainland Chinese securities regulators in relation to a pilot programme providing mutual access to the Hong Kong and Shanghai stock markets illustrates the trend towards growing levels of co-operation and collaboration between enforcement authorities in the Asia Pacific region.

FCA launches anti-fraud consumer awareness campaign

The FCA has (on 15 October) launched a campaign aimed at highlighting common indicators of investment fraud. The new "Scamsmart" pages of its website contain advice to consumers about how to deal with suspected fraud and lists the numerous warnings issued almost daily by the FCA about firms carrying on business without authorisation. The campaign, funded by monies confiscated from those convicted of investment fraud related offences, is an illustration of the FCA's efforts not only to respond to consumer detriment through prosecutions and use of its powers to apply for injunctions, but to engage with consumers and intervene to prevent harm from occurring where possible.

<http://www.fca.org.uk/news/national-campaign-will-target-those-most-at-risk-of-investment-fraud>

<http://scamsmart.fca.org.uk/>

FCA issues temporary prohibition on short selling

On 17 October, the FCA imposed a temporary prohibition on short selling of shares in Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena following a decision made by another EU regulator. The prohibition was lifted at the end of the trading day on 17 October.

<http://www.fca.org.uk/news/temporary-prohibition-of-short-selling-banca-monte-dei-paschi>

FCA warnings

Name of firm	Date of warning	Details
Gilmoore Financial	17 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/gilmoore-financial
Stanford Barclay	17 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/stanford-barclay

Ronney Loan Services	17 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/ronney-loan-services
King Edward / Brightstar Financial Limited	17 October	Clone firm http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/king-edward-clone
AVA Capital Management	16 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/ava-capital-management
Omega Trading Limited	15 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/omega-trading-limited
International Mergers and Acquisitions Board of Japan	15 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/international-mergers-and-acquisitions-board-of-japan
Smith and Jacobs	15 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/smith-and-jacobs
P J Financial / Peter Jager Financial	14 October	Clone firm http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/p-j-financial-clone
Income Strategy Limited	14 October	Not authorised http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/income-strategy-limited
Grants Limited (clone) also t/a The British Business Fund	14 October	Clone firm http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/grants-limited-clone
Red Level Enterprises Limited	14 October	Clone firm http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/red-level-enterprises-limited-clone
Skyline Umbrella Fund Plc (clone) / SKY Fund Managers Ireland Plc / Skyline Funds	13 October	Clone firm http://www.fca.org.uk/news/warnings/skyline-umbrella-fund-plc-clone

Policy developments

FCA		PRA		
Proposed developments				
		Deadline for responses		
Consultation papers			15 January 2015	<p>The FCA has (on 14 October) issued a consultation paper (CP 22/4) setting out its proposed approach to with-profits business in the light of the transposition of Solvency II, the Memorandum of Understanding between it and the FCA and associated changes to the PRA Rulebook.</p> <p>http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/pradocuments/publications/cp/2014/cp2214.pdf</p>
			9 January 2015	<p>The FCA has (on 15 October) issued a consultation paper (CP23/4) seeking views on a draft supervisory statement setting out the PRA's views and providing further clarity on the process for applying for certain Solvency II approvals.</p> <p>http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/pradocuments/publications/cp/2014/cp2314.pdf</p>
Feedback statements	<p>Further to a consultation paper issued in July 2012 (CP 12/13), the FCA has (on 14 October) published a feedback statement (FS 14/1) setting out the main conduct issues associated with the transposition of Solvency II into UK rules and regulations. This exercise is required to be</p>			

	<p>completed by March 2015 and the new rules will come into force from 1 January 2016.</p> <p>http://www.fca.org.uk/static/pubs/cp/cp12-13.pdf</p> <p>http://www.fca.org.uk/static/documents/feedback-statements/fs14-1.pdf</p>			
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Further Afield

Hong Kong and Mainland Chinese regulators strengthen enforcement co-operation

Further to the unveiling in April 2014 of the proposed Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect pilot programme to provide mutual access to stock markets, the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission and China Securities Regulatory Commission have (on 17 October) signed a memorandum of understanding providing for the sharing of information, joint investigations and complementary enforcement action. Although it is confined to investigations and action relating to the programme when it comes into effect and significant differences remain between approaches and levels of enforcement activity around the Asia Pacific region, the agreement is an illustration of growing levels of co-operation and collaboration between regulators.

<http://www.sfc.hk/edistributionWeb/gateway/EN/news-and-announcements/news/corporate-news/doc?refNo=14PR41>

<http://www.sfc.hk/edistributionWeb/gateway/EN/news-and-announcements/news/doc?refNo=14PR127>

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